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THE Two Petitions Of the Knights, Gentlemen, and Free-holders of the County of *OXON:*

Together with the two Petitions of the Knights, Gentlemen, Ministers, Free-holders, and other Inhabitants of the County of *Kent*, as they were presented to both Houses of Parliament on the eighth, and ninth of *February*.

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TO THE
RIGHT HONOVRABLE
The Houſe of PEERS, now aſſembled in PARLIAMENT

The humble Petition of the Knights Gentlemen, Freeholders, and Subſidie-men, of the beſt rancke and quality in the County of Oxon.

Sheweth.

THAT your *Petitioners* have for divers yeares, groaned under moſt heavy preſſures and grievances, both in our Religion, civill rites and liberties, which were growne to ſuch height, that they became unſupportable, and yet no hopes of redreſſe appeared to the eye of man, till it pleaſed the Almighty God of his infinite goodneſſe, to ſtirre up the Kings Majeſty to call this preſent *Parliament*, whereby our dying hopes were raiſed to very great and confident expectations to of a full and perfect Reformation, but they were ſoon abated to our exceeding great diſcouragement, by the lets and hinderances which are largely expreſſed in the late Remonſtrance of the ſtate of the Kingdome, ſet forth by the Honourable houſe of Commons, ariſing

from the endeavours of a malignant party within this Kingdome: and (as we humbly conceive) from the popiſh Lords and Biſhops, Voting in the Houſe of *Peers*: Nevertheleſſe we now cannot bnt entertain new hopes of comfort, and of the happy proceedings and ſucceſſe of this *Parliæment*, beholding with unſpeakable joy, your late concurrence with the Honourable Houſe of Commons, eſpecially in taking away the Votes of prelats, and ſetling this Kingdome in a poſture of defence: which we do with all poſſible thankfulnſſe acknowledg.

Humbly beſeeching your Lordſhips, that you would keep up our hopes by proceeding in your hap py concurrence with the houſe of *Commons*, to a perfect Reformation, and particularly, in vindicating the priviledges of *Parliament*, diſcovering, puniſhing and removing evill Counſellors and Magiſtrates, taking away from the popiſh Lords, their Votes in parliament, utterly aboliſhing that Kingdome deſtroying ſin of idolatry, together with ſuperſtition and Arminianiſme, ſo much profeſſed and countenanced in our Vniverſity: paſſing the Bill againſt plurallities, and joyning in that order of the houſe of *Commons*, for the demolliſhing of Altars, and ſcandalous pictures: And your petitioners ſhall ſtill have cauſe to look upon your Lordſhips with as high eſteem as ever our fore-Fathers did upon your moſt Noble progenitors, and alſo with our beſt endevours, will maintain you in yonr happy concurrence with the ſaid Houſe of *Commons*, in your perſons, Honours, and Dignities.

And your petitioners ſhall ever pray, &c.

To

To the *Honourable* the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, of the House of *commons* assembled in *Parliament.*

The humble petition of the Gentlemen, Freeholders, Subsidy-men and others of good rank and quality, Inhabitants of the County of Oxon.

Sheweth.

OVr most humble and thankfull acknowledgment of your exceeding great care and pains already taken, during this Parlament, to the hazarding of your healths and lives, in the endeavouring a removal of the many grievances in Church & Common-wealth: As also the continued care, and unwearied endeavours, for a perfect Reformation: The *Remonstrance* wherof, as we cannot consider without unspeakabe joy (it putting life into our languishing soules) so we desire it may be remembred with high esteeme by us and our posterity for ever. And for that you under Almighty God, and his most excellent Majesty, are now called to the place of our chiefest hopes against all our ells: Your Petitioners humbly presnt our daily fears and distractions arising from the desperate plots of the malignant Party of this Kingdome, and from the certaine reports of the most barbarous and bloody practises of the Rebels in *Ireland*, by whose prevailing and the small provision that is made for their suppressing and securing of this Kingdom against the like attempts, the said party is much imboldened, the Petitioners feares augmented, their common Commerce and Trading abated, and the publike safety of the Kingdome endangered,

It is therefore the humble desire of your Petitioners, That some course may bee taken as to suppresse those Rebels in Ireland: *so to put this Kingdom in such a posture of defence, as the present condition thereof requireth: And that it may please you in our behalfs, to be a meanes to the Kings most gracious Majesty, and to the House of Peers, to perfect their endeavours by their concurrence with you, in punishing Delinquents, and removing all those pressures and grievances, in Church and Common-wealth, with the causes, and Causers of the same. And your Petitioners shall unceassantly pray unto Almighty God for the prosperous and happy successe, and withall, put forth our best endeavours to maintaine and defend the Kings most excellent Majesty and high Court of Parliament in their good endeavours and undertakings for the comfortable and secure setling of Religion, and Liberties against all malignant opposers whatsoever.*

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To the Right Honourable the Houſe Peers aſſembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of the Knights, Gentlemen, Miniſters, Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the County of Kent.

Sheweth.

THat the Petitioners doe with joy and humble thankfulneſſe acknowledge the good Correſpondency and Concurrence, which (by the bleſſing of God) this Honourable Houſe hath held with the Worthy Houſe of Commons, in paſſing the Bill to take away the Votes of the Prelats in this Honourable Houſe, and diſabling them from Temporall imployments; And for ſetting the Kingdome into a Poſture of War for its defence.

And the Petitioners doe in like manner moſt humbly and heartily profeſſe, That they will ever honour this Honourable Houſe, and to the utmoſt of their power defend the ſame, ſo far as your Lordſhips ſhall continue to hold Correſpondence and Concurrence with the ſaid Houſe of Commons in all their juſt deſires and endeavours. Upon which the Petitioners doe humbly conceive, greatly dependeth the peace and Welfare of this Kingdome.

And the Petitioners moſt humbly pray, That this Honourable Houſe (declaring therein your Noble Reſolutions for the publike good) would bee pleaſed to go on with the ſaid

Houſe

House of Commons, to a through Reformation, especially of the Church, according to the Word of God; To presse dispaech for the reliefe of *Ireland*; To expedite proceedings against Delinquents; To Vindicate Parliament Priviledges; To discover, remove, and punish evill Counsellors; To deprive the Popish Lords of their Votes; to disarme and search out Papists, and put them into safe custody; To suppresse Masse, both in publike and private; To cast out scandalous Ministers, plant painfull Preachers every where; And discover who are Church Papists, as well as known Recusants.

And the Petitioners shall daily pray.

To the Honourable, the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the Commons House now assembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of many Knights, Gentlemen, Freeholders and other Inhabitants in the County of *Kent*.

Sheweth.

THat we these many years past have bin pressed with many unusuall and heavy burdens on our consciences and states, to our great grief and discouragement, yet good hath been shewed us from the Lord our God, who hath extended mercy to us to give us a little reviving by the providence and unceſſant care of this Honourable House, whose matchlesse diligence hath already removed many almost insuperable difficulties, whose pious intentions (under our God) upholds our hopes for removal of al our presſures which continue upon us by the Popish Lords and Prelates with their party in the House of Peers, which have been the great

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great opposers of your just proceedings and zealous endeavours, whereby our grievances increase upon us.

First, the trade of cloathing being decaid to the impoverishing of the County, and to the bringing of many thousands of the poore depending thereon to unavoidable necessities.

2. That this his Majesties County bordering upon the Sea Coast is exposed to danger by forraign enemies, whose fears threaten us being greatly weakned by so many armes forced from us for the Northern Service.

3. That our brethren the Protestants in *Ireland* lie bleeding under the inhumane hand of Popish Rebels, who have conspired and lift up the head to root our true religion there, and without timely prevention to cause confusion here.

4. That the priviledges of Parliament (in the peace whereof is our peace) broken in so a unparelled a manner, to the great amazement of us, who according to our duty are come to make expression of our loyalty to our Soveraign and fidelity to his Parliament, in maintaining and defending, as far as lawfully we may, with our lives, power and estates his Majesties Royall Person and priviledges of Parliament against all adversarie attempts.

Wherefore our ardent prayer is that by the wisedome of this Honourable House the popish Lords may be outed the House of Peers, the causes of our grievances taken away, the County put in a posture of defence, the ports fortified and committed to trusty hands, our armes restored, the fire in *Ireland* speedily quenched, delinquents punished, and the priviledges of Parliament confirmed, which will turne our mourning into a good day.

And wee shall pray that God would crowne this happy Parliament with such successe, that the Lord may be an habitation of Justice, and the Church the mountaine of holinesse.

FINIS.